

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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independently of any regulatory efforts. Several countries have already adopted carbon emission caps and businesses in those countries have already begun searching for carbon sequestration. Additionally, much of the interest is consumer-driven, as industries such as electrical generators seek to meet their customer's demands for cleaner energy and efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The purpose of the bill is to create the scientific documentation necessary to verify and quantify carbon actually being stored in ag land in the state. The century model has already been demonstrated as providing the necessary assurances and measurements to potential buyers. The assessment performed under this bill would place agricultural producers in this state in the forefront of carbon credit marketing. There is a lot to the subjects, and I'll try to respond to any questions you might have. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Dierks, would move to amend the bill with AM2276. (AM2276, Legislative Journal page 639.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Dierks, you're recognized to open on your amendment to LB 6...or 457, LB 957 is it? LB 957.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President. AM2276 appears on page 639 of your Journal, makes some minor technical changes to the bill. The amendment adopts some suggestions that came up during the public hearing and incorporates a couple of minor requests the Natural Resources Commission brought to me after the hearing. Currently, the bill provides for the appointment of a 13-member advisory committee to assist and advise the Natural Resources Commission in performing its duties under the bill. AM2276 changes the composition of the advisory committee by adding a representative of the Department of Environmental Quality. Also in the original bill, the advisory committee has four producer representatives and two livestock producer and two crop producers. The amendment would clarify that one of the livestock producers shall be actively engaged in range management, and one of the crop producer representatives shall actively employ minimum tillage systems in a farming operation.